

A NEW SPECIES OF SENECIO FROM COSTA RICA

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Senecio chirripoensis H. Robinson & R. D. Brettell, n. sp.

Plantae herbaceae erectae ca. 7 dm altae. Caules teretes tenuiter appresse pilosi demum glabrescentes. Folia alterna superne decrescentia remota, laminis duplo denticulatis supra et subtus sparse arachnoideis demum glabrescentibus; folia inferiora anguste petiolata, petiolis 7.5 cm longis solum inferne anguste alatis breviter decurrentibus, laminis 12 cm longis 8 cm latis ovatis base cordatis ad apicem acutis; folia intermedia late petiolata, petiolis 6-7 cm longis 1-3 cm latis longe decurrentibus margine denticulatis, laminis longe triangularibus 13-15 cm longis 4-7 cm latis base abrupte truncatis ad apicem anguste acutis; folia superiora linearia 4-15 cm longa, petiolis indistinctis. Inflorescentiae laxae corymbosae, pedicellis glabris 1-4 cm longis, bracteis minutis linearibus 1-5 mm longis. Capitula 1.1-1.3 cm alta 6-7 mm lata; squamae involucri ca. 25 lineares 8-9 mm longae 1 mm latae subglabrae; receptacula fistulosa plana. Flores radii 7-8 flavi 13 mm longi 3 mm lati; flores disci 45-50 anguste infundibulares 8 mm longi, tubis 3 mm longis, lobis 0.5 mm longis 1 1/2 longioribus quam latioribus extus ad apicem parum papillois, lacticiferis mediis nullis; thecae antherarum ca. 2 mm longae base breviter hastatae, appendicibus anguste oblongis obtusis; styli ad apicem truncati. Achaenia glabra; carpopodia annuliformia, cellulis minutis 4-5-seriatis. Pappus 6-7 mm longus plerumque biseriatus facile deciduus, cellulis apicalibus angustis argute acutis. Grana pollinis ca. 30 μ diam.

Type: COSTA RICA: San José: Cerro Chirripó; the cave area along trail to the paramo; elev. 3200 m. Along small stream in oak forest. Flowers yellow. 5 April 1969. Davidse & Pohl 1625 (Holotype US).

The species most closely related to Senecio oerstedianus Benth. but the plant is more glabrous, the upper leaves are more linear and the inflorescence is more lax.